

CALIFORNIA CONDOR POPULATION SIZE AND DISTRIBUTION

July 1, 2004

(status through June 30, prepared July 7)

TOTAL POPULATION

248

CAPTIVE POPULATION

149

Los Angeles Zoo	27
San Diego WAP	30
WCBP Boise	55
Oregon Zoo	13
Mentor birds in field pens	3
Pre-release birds in field pens	21
Southern California	0
Central California	12
Baja California	3
Arizona	6

WILD POPULATION

99

California		47
Southern California-released birds	20	
Flying	20	
Central California-released birds	24	
Flying	22	
Recaptured, temporarily held in field pen	2	
Nestlings in wild	3	
Baja California		5
Flying	5	
Arizona		47
Flying	44	
Recaptured, temporarily held in field pen	1	
Nestlings in wild	2	

Changes June:

Six pre-release birds transferred from Southern California release site to Central California release site
 LAZ received 1 captive-laid egg from Oregon Zoo for incubation
 Wild, Arizona – 2 chicks hatched

Eggs laid in 2004:

Los Angeles Zoo – 5 eggs: 2 hatched; 2 nestlings
 Los Angeles Zoo – 4 eggs from other facilities: 4 hatched; 3 nestlings
 San Diego WAP – 11 eggs: 1 transferred to LAZ, 8 hatched; 8 nestlings;
 WCBP Boise – 29 eggs: 2 transferred to LAZ, 15 hatched; 14 nestlings
 Oregon Zoo – 2 eggs: 1 transferred to LAZ, 1 hatched; 1 nestling
 Wild, California – 3 eggs: 3 hatched; 3 nestlings
 Wild, Arizona – 2 eggs: 2 hatched; 2 nestlings

California Department of Fish and Game
 Habitat Conservation Planning Branch

http://www.dfg.ca.gov/hcpb/species/t_e_spp/tebird/Condor%20Pop%20Stat.pdf

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TOTAL POPULATION

248

CAPTIVE POPULATION

149

Los Angeles Zoo	27 (including 5 nestlings)
San Diego WAP	30 (including 8 nestlings)
WCBP Boise	55 (including 14 nestlings)
Oregon Zoo	13 (including 1 nestling)
Mentor birds in field pens	3 (SB# 36 in So. CA; # 63 in Centr. CA; # 64 in Baja CA)
Pre-release birds in field pens	21
Southern California	0
Central California	6 at Big Sur (SB# 294, 298, 301, 303, 311, 318); 6 at Pinnacles (SB# 306, 307, 310, 312, 313, 317)
Baja California	3 (SB# 269, 279, 284)
Arizona	6 (SB# 291, 293, 297, 302, 314, 316)

WILD POPULATION

99

California		47
Southern California-released birds		20
Flying	20	
Recaptured, temporarily held in field pen	0	
Central California-released birds		24
Flying	22	
Recaptured, temporarily held in field pen	2 (SB# 265, 278)	
Nestlings in wild		3
Baja California		5
Flying	5	
Recaptured, temporarily held in field pen	0	
Arizona		47
Flying (incl. one 2003-fledged bird)	44	
Recaptured, temporarily held in field pen	1 (SB# 273)	
Nestlings in wild		2

Changes June:

Six pre-release birds transferred from Southern California release site to Central California release site

LAZ received 1 captive-laid egg from Oregon Zoo for incubation

Wild, Arizona – 2 chicks hatched in early June Grand Canyon National Park and Vermilion Cliffs National Monument

Eggs laid in 2004:

Los Angeles Zoo – 5 eggs: 1 non-viable, 1 broken, 1 died, 2 hatched; 2 nestlings

Los Angeles Zoo – 4 eggs from other facilities: 4 hatched; 3 nestlings

San Diego WAP – 11 eggs: 1 transferred to LAZ, 1 infertile, 1 died, 8 hatched; 8 nestlings

WCBP Boise – 29 eggs: 7 infertile, 2 transferred to LAZ, 5 non-viable, 15 hatched; 14 nestlings

Oregon Zoo – 2 eggs: 1 transferred to LAZ, 1 hatched; 1 nestling

Wild, California – 3 eggs: 3 hatched; 3 nestlings

Wild, Arizona – 2 eggs: 2 hatched; 2 nestlings

Production in 2004: 47 captive-laid eggs; 5 wild-laid eggs (tentatively, 28 captive nestlings and 5 wild nestlings)

Production in 2003: 28 offspring in captivity and 1 fledgling in the wild were produced from 41 captive-laid and 4 wild-laid eggs.

Explanatory notes:

SB# - Condor Studbook number

"CAPTIVE POPULATION" includes:

- birds captured from the wild prior to 1988 that are still in a captive facility (e.g., zoo)
- previously released birds returned to captivity permanently or for care and possible re-release
- surviving chicks and juveniles (excludes eggs laid)
- captive-hatched birds retained for captive breeding
- young birds held in breeding facilities in preparation for transfer to a field pen for release
- "mentor birds" from a captive facility transferred temporarily into a field pen to aid socialization of pre-release birds
- birds transferred from a captive facility to a field pen in preparation for initial release or re-release
- WAP is Wild Animal Park (Zoological Society of San Diego); WCBP is World Center for Birds of Prey (The Peregrine Fund)

"WILD POPULATION" includes:

- free-flying birds recently accounted for
- free-flying birds, assumed to be alive, although not recently accounted for
- nestlings in wild nests
- temporarily re-captured wild birds, held in a field pen, that are intended to be re-released soon

"So. Calif." refers to birds originally released at sites from San Luis Obispo County to Ventura County by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge Complex. Birds released in the two California release areas now freely intermingle.

"Central Calif." refers to birds originally released at sites north of San Luis Obispo County by the Ventana Wilderness Society. Birds released in the two California release areas now freely intermingle.

"Baja Calif." refers to birds originally released in Baja California by the Zoological Society of San Diego, the Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada, and the Instituto Nacional de Ecología.

"Arizona" refers to birds in Arizona and several other states east of California, released by The Peregrine Fund.

Mortalities requiring law enforcement investigation often will not be publicly reported immediately.

Wild Population Statistics, July 1, 2004

1988-92: So. CA – 15 Andean condors released, 1 died, 14 returned to captivity, relocated

1992-95: So. CA - 13 California condors released in 1992-93: 6 died, 7 returned to captivity permanently

Since 1995:

165 California condors released (So. CA – 52; Cent. CA – 38; Baja CA – 5; AZ – 70)

58 released-bird deaths: (0 in 1995; 2 in 1996; 6 in 1997; 5 in 1998; 7 in 1999; 16 in 2000; 5 in 2001; 7 in 2002; 10 in 2003; 0 so far in 2004)

14 returned to captivity permanently, indefinitely, or for extended treatment or rehabilitation

Egg-laying pairs in the wild, California: 2 in 2001; 3 in 2002; 1 in 2003; 3 in 2004

Egg-laying pairs in the wild, Arizona: 1 in 2001; 2 in 2002; 3 in 2003; 2 in 2004

5 known deaths of nestlings in the wild in CA; 1 bird fledged in the wild in AZ

July 1 totals:

6 in 1995, 17 in '96, 29 in '97, 38 in '98, 49 in '99, 48 in '00, 56 in '01, 64 in '02, 82 in '03, 99 in '04

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http://www.dfg.ca.gov/hcpb/species/t_e_spp/tebird/Condor%20Pop%20Stat.pdf